

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A confocal microscope comprising:  
optics defining a path of rays of a confocal microscope;  
an ocular;  
a tube lens; and  
a rotatable optical system for image rotation disposed in the path of rays of the confocal microscope, wherein the rotatable optical system is disposed between a scanning lens and a scanning mirror of a laser scanner in the path of rays of the confocal microscope,  
~~wherein the rotatable optical system for image rotation serves to rotate all scanning and video images fed through the laser scanner into the microscope~~  
wherein the scanning mirror directs a rotated image to a detector.

17. (Previously presented) Confocal microscope according to claim 16, wherein the rotatable optical system for image rotation is a prism.

18. (Previously presented) Confocal microscope according to claim 17, wherein the prism is a dove prism.

19. (Previously presented) Confocal microscope according to claim 17, wherein the prism is an Abbe prism.

20. (Previously presented) Confocal microscope according to claim 16, wherein the rotatable optical system for image rotation is a mirror system.

21. (Previously presented) Confocal microscope according to claim 20, wherein the mirror system is a system with an odd number of mirrors.

22. (Currently Amended) Confocal microscope according to claim 20, wherein the mirror system is [[a]] configured as a K mirror.

23-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously presented) Confocal microscope according to claim 16, wherein the laser scanner further comprises a fixed thick beam splitter to avoid interferences.

27. (Previously presented) Confocal microscope according to claim 16, further comprising an axially movable objective.

28. (Previously presented) Confocal microscope according to claim 16, further comprising an axially movable objective turret.

29-42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A confocal microscope ~~according to claim 16, further comprising:~~

an ocular;

a tube lens;

a rotatable optical system for image rotation disposed in the path of rays of the confocal microscope, wherein the rotatable optical system is disposed between a scanning lens and a scanning mirror of a laser scanner in the path of rays of the confocal microscope, wherein the rotatable optical system for image rotation serves to rotate all scanning and video images fed to the laser scanner from the microscope,

an excitation pinhole disposed in a path of excitation light; and

a detection pinhole disposed proximate to a detector.

44. (Currently Amended) The confocal microscope according to claim 16,  
~~wherein the scanning mirror directs a rotated image to a detector wherein the rotatable optical system for image rotation serves to rotate all scanning and video images fed to the laser scanner from the microscope.~~

45-46. (Cancelled)